

March, 2010

ALEXANDRIA'S TIGER GRANT PROJECTS

In February, 2009, the U.S. Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, or Stimulus Act, which was designed to get Americans working. One of the programs which came out of the Act was the TIGER grant program, administered by the federal D.O.T, a \$1.5 Billion competitive program available throughout the country, which provides funding to almost any method of transportation. These funds do not require a local match. As was the case with most economic stimulus grants, the time for submittal of projects was abbreviated. Thus the criteria for grant submission were established in May 16, 2009 and the date of submittal was September 15, 2009.

In the Washington region, the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments developed an application, in close cooperation with many local jurisdictions and WMATA to fund priority bus transit in the region, regional bike-sharing, and transit centers. This application was for \$266,718,500.

This application contained two projects which Alexandria requested. The first is to construct the Potomac Yard Transitway, from East Glebe Road to Monroe Avenue for \$8.5 million. The stations will be constructed with other grant funding. The transitway and stations will be designed to accommodate buses initially, but will have design elements in it which would facilitate a decision to use a higher capacity technology in the future if this is this decision is made.

The second project is to construct \$670,000 of capital improvements which can assist transit in the corridor served by a proposed Van Dorn-Pentagon BRT. These improvements include creating high quality transit stops, and giving transit vehicles preferences at some intersections through various means.

On February 17, 2010, the U.S. DOT announced the TIGER grant recipients. The region received an award of \$58,838,000 for projects throughout the region. Both of our projects were awarded these funds. In light of the fact that \$60 Billion of applications were received for \$1.5 Billion of funds, we are very pleased with the selection.

The City will now be engaged in all of the processes needed to design and build the facilities determined in the grant.